Receipt date: 01/15/2010

PTO/SB/08a (07-09) Approved for use through 07/31/2012. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A/PTO **Application Number** 10/573,656 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date 11-20-06 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT **First Named Inventor** Tomoyuki Shinoda Art Unit 1794 (Use as many sheets as necessary) Examiner Name R. PATEL Sheet 1 1 of Attorney Docket Number 0599-0214PUS1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner initial *	Cite No. 1	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY					
	1	US-2003/0113521-A1	06-19-2003	Nishinaka et al.				
	2	US-5,936,048-A	08-10-1999	Oishi et al.				
			·····					

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initial *	Cite No. 1	Foreign Patent Document Country ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code (if known) ⁵ Code		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T.e		
	3	EP	0982385-A1	03-01-2000					
	4	EP	0995784-A1	04-26-2000					
	5	EP	1117283-A1	07-18-2001					
	6	EP	1273630-A1	01-08-2003					

Examiner Signature	/Ronak Patel/	Date Considered	01/18/2010

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS.

SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

^{*} EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not Considered. Include of this form with next communication to applicant.

^{1.} Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional) 2. See Kinds codes of USPTO patent Documents. at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

^{3.} Enter Office that isssued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3.) 4. For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.f 16 if possible. 6. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.